

The West Virginian

"THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME."

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TUESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 31, 1915.

BRIDGE BOND ISSUE

MAYOR BOWEN seems to have his heart set on having the question of putting out additional bonds for new bridges and other municipal improvements settled at once, regardless of whether or not it is expedient to force the issue at this time or not. He has become convinced that action on this question must be taken at once, and it does not seem likely at this time, judging from what Mayor Bowen had to say at the meeting of the Board of Aldermen yesterday morning, that any person will be able to get the idea out of his head. This may lead the Mayor into plunging blindly into a controversy which will in all probability end disastrously for the chief executive of the city and the citizens of Fairmont as well. Hasty and drastic action at this time may be the means of preventing for some time to come a much needed improvement.

Mayor Bowen probably means well and is honest in his opinion that now is the time to call an election for additional money for new bridges and other improvements; but the Mayor is undoubtedly on the wrong track. In the first place the people of Fairmont want to know just exactly how much money is needed; how the money is to be spent; how much certain corporations are going to give towards the fund for the new bridges and just how far the new bonds are going to effect the taxes of the property owners of this city. The whole situation is in an unsettled condition, and there is not one person who is able to make a reasonable report as to just how the matter stands. The Mayor is just as much up in the air as any other person, but he still insists on putting the bond issue up to a vote of the people just as soon as possible.

A prominent citizen told the Mayor plainly yesterday morning that premature action on the bond issue would prove disastrous and that in all probability if an election was called in the immediate future, without the reports of the committees of the Chamber of Commerce having been given consideration, that the people of Fairmont would in all probability not support the issue.

Mayor Bowen should remember that hasty action will defeat his own purpose. He says that he wants to see the city improve and that he wants to get the bridges and other improvements for the citizens. He should stop to consider, however, that if the new bond issue is forced to an issue before the time is ripe that the people will not respond and will by their ballot hit the issue on the head. This would only be a temporary defeat; but it would make it harder to put the bonds over the next time an election was called.

Mayor Bowen stated that there would be nothing lost should an election be called and the voters refused to vote for the additional bonds. He was wrong on that score. Not only would the money needed to conduct the election be wasted, but the fact that the voters of the community turned down the proposition would have a bad effect on efforts afterwards for another election on the same issue.

Why such speed anyway? Suppose that an election were to be held in two weeks, which is, of course impossible, and the people of this city voted for the additional bonds, what could be accomplished before next spring? Nothing at all. You can't build bridges in the winter. It would be far better to take a little time now and get the proposition in shape for consideration by the voters before ordering an election.

The West Virginian has always stood for improvements and will always stand for improvements for the good of the community. There is no question but that the suggested improvements would be a good thing for the city. But this is the question: Is this an opportune time to rush through an election on the question? It does not seem so. As matters stand at the present time, with the proposition in such indefinite shape the citizens of Fairmont would not rally to the support of the measure, and in the best interests of the city the Mayor should refrain from forcing the issue until the different matters in connection with the improvements are more definitely settled.

HIS EXPLANATION.

William did not shine as a student, and his reports clearly proved this. Yet he insisted to his mother that he was right at the top of his class. "You see," he explained when one of his reports was under scrutiny, "that 'E' is for 'excellent' and that 'D' is for 'dandy'." "But," persisted his mother, "the little girl across the street gets almost nothing but 'A's' on her reports." "Well, mother," responded the boy, "I hate to give her away, but 'A' stands for 'awful'." And it is said that he got away with it.

ECONOMICAL.

The canny Scotsman is ever famous for his thrift. Ian MacDougal, about to leave on a journey, proved no exception to the rule. To his wife he said: "Noo, Janet, dinna forget to mak' see Sandy tak' off his glasses when he's no lookin' through them."

"DUMPING" OF SURPLUS PRODUCTS.

THE practice of "dumping" is something that is familiar to every line of industry. It is practically impossible for any producer to forecast his market accurately. In order to reduce his relative costs and be ready to supply any demand that may be made, he produces as large a quantity as his plant will permit or as large as he hopes to sell. Therefore, in a majority of instances, there is an over-production, and in order to clear his stock rooms, the producer ultimately cuts the price of part of his product in order to force it upon an unwilling market.

Each manufacturer tries, of course, to "dump" his surplus product in such a manner as not to permanently injure his own trade. The American manufacturer, after supplying the normal demand in his home market, endeavors to "dump" his surplus by selling at a reduced price in other countries. The European producer, whose first market is among the people of his own nation, gets his regular profit from sales at a regular price, but when he finds a surplus on hand, as is frequently the case, he sends it to this country to be sold at less than cost rather than carry it and suffer greater loss through inability to sell at all.

In every community we see illustrations of this practice of "dumping" at every change of seasons. The straw hat that sells for three or four dollars at the opening of the season will be sacrificed at a dollar or even less, rather than be carried over into the winter. Sacrifice sales of furs late in the winter, and sacrifice sales of summer goods late in the summer are other illustrations of the same practice.

A broader example of "dumping," however, is to be found in many lines where inferior qualities of raw material, together with cheap labor, are combined to produce commodities which, to the unpracticed eye, are substantially the same as those of standard lines; but which really are of the "near-seal" or "near-silk" or "near-something" character, and which have been produced for the sole purpose of being "dumped." In the domestic market there is no safeguard except eternal vigilance against this sort of "dumping"—as many a "stung" purchaser can testify. In the import trade, however, there is a sovereign remedy for such an evil in the form of wisely-drawn tariff schedules which impose specific rather than ad valorem duties. By such means foreign shoddies may be kept from being dumped in our markets, which will be reserved for the American manufacturer with his superior product, and who will "dump" only small quantities and those at end-season times.

When we measure the amount of tariff duty necessary to protect the American manufacturer from ruinous competition with manufacturers abroad, we must take into consideration that the foreign manufacturer is ready at every opportunity to "dump" his surplus product on the American market at less than cost of production. Permitting the foreign manufacturer to unload his surplus or inferior product in America necessarily means that the product of American labor in the same line of industry must be sold in competition therewith or the market be given over to the foreign producer.

These facts are within the observation of every business man, and should not be overlooked in the study of the tariff question.

What need have we now of a million dollar aeroplane fleet? asks an exchange. Might use 'em to brush away dem clouds along the corn crop!

SUMMER ON THE WANE.

WHAT many have been pleased to call a "summerless summer" is now on the wane and it will only be a short time until the cold breezes from the north will be sweeping the country. Yesterday's wire reports brought the news that the middle west had been visited by heavy frosts and that great damage had been done to the crops in that section. The indications are that we will have an early fall and a long winter; but he who tries to predict the weather more than ten minutes in advance is foolish, so we do not make this statement as a prediction carrying any weight. But with all our "summerless summer" is has been a good year for crops all over the country and the United States will have a bumper crop in practically every line, which may do some to help brighten the darkened business sky—darkened by the war cloud and the cloud of depression which is invariably connected with a Democratic administration.

The people of the United States may be at least thankful for one thing, as they contemplate the coming winter—our country has not so far become a party in the international slaughter that has been going on for over a year. While President Wilson has not made a success of his office in many respects, he has at least kept the United States out of war up to the present time, although we have escaped the war demon on more than one occasion through good luck rather than good judgment. If this country can remain free from war, there is still at least one thing for which we may give thanks.

There is consolation in the fact that, bring forth what it may, this will be about the last winter of Democratic administration for several years. If the Democratic leaders can read at all, they must see the handwriting on the wall in regard to their fate in 1916. Indications are that the Republican party will sweep the country in the next election and the Democrats will be buried under the Republican landslide. Of course, the actual change from Democratic to Republican administration will not come with the election next November; but the psychological effect of the election will be felt at once, so that next winter, while still awaiting the actual change of administration, we will be reaping the harvest of a sweeping Republican victory.

When it comes to necessary protection of our rights, the coo of the dove isn't in it with the call of the American eagle!

When the old ocean roars, perhaps it's because some lobster's pinching the under-tow.

Outbursts of Everett True

(By CONDO.)



Editorial Comment on Current Subjects

FOOTING THE WAR BILL.

The statement by the Vorwaerts that after the war the German Imperial debt and pensions alone will demand an expenditure of at least \$625,000,000 annually, or a little less than the ordinary and extraordinary Imperial expenditure for 1913, directs attention to a phase that is probably paralleled in some degree in all the belligerent countries. This means that the ordinary income of the empire will suffice to pay only the interest on the national debt. The ordinary expenses of the Government on a peace basis will have to be met by recourse to new sources of taxation or income in existing taxes.

The funds for the carrying on of the war are not, of course, being raised in any of the great nations by commensurate increase in taxation. That is impracticable. They are being provided by loans. France, for example, has not levied a single increase in taxes. While the war lasts it is unlikely there will be any attempt made to add to the tax burden. Thus the people are not being impressed with the personal presentation of the bill. The Government is borrowing the money and spending millions like water. It is all impersonal—for the time being. But the piper will have to be paid and the increase in taxation necessitated by interest and taking up the war loans will come when peace is restored, and the frenzy of war having passed there will be no stimulant to dull the shock.

For the moment, if the warring countries think at all of how the bill is to be paid, they console themselves with the delusive hope that they will be able to exact a sufficient indemnity from the defeated enemy. They overlook the probability of the outcome being a deadlock and a compromise or mutual bankruptcy.—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

SURE HE WOULD.



YOU KNOW HOW IT IS.

Argument: You have been married four years and you are helping your wife make a bed for only the 378th time.

She (desperately): You don't seem to remember anything I tell you! You (a little disappointed, honestly you thought you had been doing it the right way): What's wrong with this?

She: It isn't even. You (pulling the sheet over): How's that?

She (taking matters into her own hands): Let me do it. There! You (grieved): That's just the way I had it!

She (firmly): No, that's not just the way you had it. You had it way over here. Why don't you try to pay attention when I explain and explain and EXPLAIN?

You (more grieved): Why, I do pay attention! I remember perfectly. Now watch me put this blanket on. (Blanket flourish.) She (horrified, stopping you): That's the wrong end. She (very decidedly): A blanket has a right end and a wrong end, and I don't care to have the wrong end near my face all night.

You (sulkily, unappreciated genius stuff): Well, how's that? She: It's not so! What are you trying to do now?

You: Tuck it in. She (aghast): Tuck it in. Before it's folded over on top. Before the spread is on! Oh-h-h-h! You (indulging in the many art of self-defense): Well, you can't expect a fellow to remember everything.

She (cutting): I don't expect you to remember anything! (She finds the job by herself. Does she admire you as a little helper around the house? She does not. And yet should the emergency arise you can wager your last cent she will say: "George is just like your husband. He's a great help around the house. You know he does everything well because he's so handy!") Horatio Winslow in Woman's Home Companion.

CHIGGERS.

The chigger is a little red bug which although it does not carry disease, is a great nuisance. The chigger's bite, however, is very irritating and the little bug burrows in through the pores of the skin and sets up inflammation.

The bites generally are very sore and the temptation to scratch the skin can hardly be resisted. Frequently, however, the scratch wounds become infected with pus germs. Ammonia water if used when the bite first begins to get sore will prevent a great deal of irritation later on. A solution of soda water also is good and salted butter applied before the bugs have burrowed very deep is excellent.

Sometimes it is necessary to lift the little red bugs out of the skin with the point of a needle. To make this more sure a magnifying glass can be used but as a general rule this is not necessary.

If a person has knowingly been in a chigger infected district it is a good preventive plan to bath the entire body in strong soap suds or a salt

E. C. Jones
THE WOMEN'S STORE
FAIRMONT, W. VA.

For Opportunities to Save Patronize The BASEMENT STORE

The word "opportunity" has a special significance for those of our customers who are busy solving the problem of how to make their dollars go farthest.

Our basement store is literally a feast of good things in the way of bargains just at this time—the end of summer and the beginning of Autumn when new goods are coming in.

Read of The Special Offerings Featured This Week

Large size Turkish Towels, extra heavy,19c
New Lawn Waists, late styles, nicely trimmed....48c
\$1.00 Bed Spreads, Special at89c
New Autumn Trimmed Hats, large shapes\$2.98
New Velvet untrimmed Hats, splendid styles....69c
Boy's Knickerbocker pants light & dark patterns, 25c
Women's and Misses' Shoes, several styles, pair \$1.00
New Leather Hand Bags with fittings,50c
Enameled Ware, stew pans, kettles, basins, pans, 10c
New Aluminum cooking utensils, several kinds, 10c
50c Serge Dress Goods, navy, brown, red, yd.37c
New Supply of pretty Ribbons, No. 80 at a yd.10c
\$1.00 Petticoats, black, good value at69c
\$2.00 Heatherbloom Petticoats,\$1.29
New Black Velvet Fall Hats, small shapes at39c
Plaid Dress Goods, best for children's dresses, yd. 23c
Full Bleached Sheets, hemstitched, large62c
Fancy Feather Trimmings for Fall Millinery ..15c

SPECIAL FOR WEDNESDAY

30c Brooms, one to a customer, 15c.
See them in the window.

OUR JUNIOR OFFICE BOY.

n. y. fridy—the other day a guy whose middle name had oughter been boozie was pinched for ill legal selling of whiskey. All that was found on him by the cops was a peach of a red nose and a bottle of whisky when his case comes up in the court.

solution as soon as possible. Then go over the skin and remove any or the little red bugs that may be left.

PRESENCE OF MIND.

Klein (to partner)—Quick. Eckstein, a man fell trou' de cole hole! Eckstein—Clap de cover on lkey, while I run fer de cop! If we don't arrest him fer stealin' coal he'll sue us for damages!

Mrs. Carl Springer and sister, Miss Ruth Barnes, returned today from a two weeks' visit with their aunt, Mrs. Z. M. Ayers, at Cass, W. Va.

his lawyer says to him Bill stand up and look at the jury. Bill hands the jury the onset over then the lawyer turns to the jury and says gentlemen of the jury please look at the defendant. & after they got a good eyefull of Bill he sets down & the lawyer gets up again. now gentlemen of the jury you have seen the defendant and I wood like to ask you a kweshun do you suppose for a minute that if this defendant had a bottle of whisky he wood sell it legally or ill legally and that afternoon Bill was panning along 3d ave same as usually.

JOHNY



The West Virginian is on sale every evening at the following places:

A. G. Martin, Main Street.
Butcher and Satterfield, Street Car Station.

Watson Building News Stand, Main Entrance Watson Building.
C. B. Van Herten, Main Street.
Clyde S. Holt, Main Street.

J. B. Rose, Cor. Main and Parks Avenue.
Moran and Springer, Cor. Bridge and Water Streets.

J. H. McCloskey, Cor. Sixth and Locust Avenue.
Hamilton Drug Co., Cor. Tenth and Virginia Avenue.

James Galligher, Cor. Twelfth and Virginia Avenue.

SPICES

Pure, powerful, pungent spices, full and rich in flavor, that's the kind we sell. Fresh, carefully grown and selected and milled under the most modern conditions. We have every spice and condiment needed in the kitchen and can supply same right and cheap in cost.

CRANE'S DRUG STORE

DOINGS OF THE DUFFS—(TOM PROBABLY DOESN'T READ THE STYLE MAGAZINES!)—BY ALLMAN.

